



3747 IFW

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June 29, 2006

Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner
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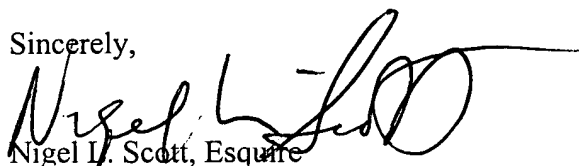
Re: Patent Application of Edward T. Buford, III
Group Art Unit: 3747
Serial No: 09/912,692
Filed: 07/26/2001
Examiner: R. Chin

Dear Sir/Madam:

In connection with the above application, please accept the enclosed fee of \$300.00 that was assessed for the presentation of excess claims pursuant to 37CFR 1.16(b) & (c).

Also, I have reviewed the latest Amendment filed in the matter and it appears that the assertion that "each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier is incorrect." For the record, claims 1 through 11 are identified as "withdrawn," and claims 12 through 19 are identified as "new." Accordingly, it is requested that the office enter claims 12 through 19. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Nigel L. Scott, Esquire

NLS/drw



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



09/912,692
UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, DC 20231
www.uspto.gov

Paper No.

NOTICE OF FEE DEFICIENCY

The informality regarding the payment of the fee is indicated below in connection with

- ☐ the original filing of the application and/or preliminary amendment (e.g. additional claim fees)
- ☐ the reply filed on _____ because of the _____. The reply is not fully responsive to the prior Office action following matter(s). See 37 CFR 1.111 and 37 CFR 1.135.

FEE(S) DUE

- ☐ 1. The reply (e.g., amendment) is considered incomplete in that the funds in Deposit Account No. _____ are insufficient to cover the entire fee due. The balance* is due within the time period set below.
- ☐ 2. The reply (e.g., amendment) is considered incomplete in that the Credit Card payment to cover the entire fee due to _____ Account _____ (Card type + last 4 digits ONLY) was refused. The balance* is due within the time period set below.
- ☒ 3. The reply (e.g., amendment) has not been entered, since applicant has failed to remit (or authorize charge to a Deposit Account or Credit Card) the fee as indicated on the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record. Remittance or authorization is due within the time period set below.
- ☒ 4. The filing fee of \$ _____ submitted in this application is insufficient. A balance of \$ 300. is due for presentation of excess claims (37 CFR 1.16(b) & (c)).
- ☐ 5. Other.

Explanation (Provide specific details of the required correction in order to assist the applicant. Indicate whether a service charge has been added to the fee due):

APPLICANT IS GIVEN A TIME PERIOD OF ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, WITHIN WHICH TO REMIT THE FEE IN ORDER TO AVOID ABANDONMENT. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136.

THE INDICATED AMOUNT OF THE FEE(S) DUE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE YEARLY ON OCTOBER 1 (37 CFR 1.16 & 1.21). THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE(S) DUE IS DETERMINED AS OF THE DATE A COMPLETE REPLY IS RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE (37 CFR 1.8 & 1.10). BECAUSE THE AMOUNT DUE IS NOT NECESSARILY THE FEE INDICATED ABOVE, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT APPLICANT CHECK THE CURRENT FEE SCHEDULE WHICH IS POSTED ON THE USPTO'S WEBSITE AT: <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/qs/ope/fees.htm>

*Service Charges: There is a \$50 service charge for processing each payment refused (including a check returned "unpaid") or charged back by a financial institution (37 CFR 1.21(m)). There is a \$25.00 service charge for each month when the balance of a deposit account is below \$1000 at the end of the month (37 CFR 1.21(b)(2)).

David Smith
Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE) or Clerk of Group

Inquires regarding this Notice should be addressed to the above at 571-272-1051 (insert Phone Number).

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09/912.692

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**Failure to Acceptably Respond to
Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)
No New Time Period for Reply is Provided**

The amendment document filed on 5/10/06 fails to provide the corrective action required by the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121) mailed on 4/12/06. The amendment, including both the originally filed amendment and the amendment filed in response to the prior notice, is still considered to be non-compliant under 37 CFR 1.121. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the item(s) listed below is required. **Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted.** 37 CFR 1.121(h).

The period for reply continues to run from the mailing date of the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. The corrections listed below must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of the application. No new time period for reply is provided in this communication. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 714.03.

If the period for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant: (1) corrects the deficiency, and (2) obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE (5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in the prior Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

- ☐ 1. Amendments to the specification:
- ☐ A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 - ☐ B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 - ☐ C. Other _____
- ☐ 2. Abstract:
- ☐ A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 - ☐ B. Other _____
- ☐ 3. Amendments to the drawings: _____
- ☒ 4. Amendments to the claims:
- ☐ A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 - ☐ B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims)
 - ☒ C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified. Note: the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim number by using one of the following 7 status identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Previously presented), (New) and (Not entered).
 - ☐ D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 - ☐ E. Other: _____

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf>.

Sandra V. Jewell
Supervisory Legal Instruments Examiner (SLIE)

571-272-1047
Telephone No.